

**Executive Council Resolution No. (22) of 2011**  
**Concerning**  
**Fees and Fines Prescribed for the Advocacy and Legal Consultancy Profession**  
**in the Emirate of Dubai\*\***

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**We, Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council,**

After perusal of

Law No. (3) of 1992 Forming the Courts of the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments,  
Law No. (3) of 2003 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai,  
Law No. (9) of 2004 Concerning Dubai International Financial Centre and its amendments,  
Law No. (32) of 2008 Establishing the Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department,  
Law No. (14) of 2009 Concerning Tariffs of Government Services in the Emirate of Dubai, and  
Law No. (35) of 2009 Concerning Management of the Public Funds of the Government of Dubai,

**do hereby issue the following Resolution:**

**Definitions**

**Article (1)**

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Resolution, shall have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

<b>Emirate:</b>	The Emirate of Dubai.
<b>Government:</b>	The Government of Dubai.
<b>Department:</b>	The Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department.

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*\* Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict the Arabic text shall prevail.*

*\* Article (11) of this Resolution has been amended under Articles (11)(a) and (13) of Law No. (8) of 2018 Regulating the Grant of Law Enforcement Capacity in the Government of Dubai*

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<b>Advocate:</b>	Any natural person who is registered with, and licensed by, the Department to provide all Legal Services to the public.
<b>Legal Consultant:</b>	Any natural person who is registered with, and licensed by, the Department to provide all Legal Services to the public, except pleading and representing third parties before Dubai courts.
<b>Firm:</b>	An office licensed by the Department and the competent authorities in the Emirate through which the Advocate or the Legal Consultant provides Legal Services to the public, regardless of the legal form of the Firm whether it is a sole establishment, a civil company or a branch of a foreign firm or a foreign company.
<b>Legal Services:</b>	The legal services which the Advocate and the Legal Consultant are licensed to provide in the Emirate and which include, without limitation, pleading and representing third parties before judicial authorities, arbitration tribunals and conciliation centres, and administrative bodies, providing legal opinion and advice, drafting contracts and any other legal services.
<b>Licence:</b>	The approval issued by the Department under which a Firm is authorised to finalise the licensing procedures with the competent authority in the Emirate, in order to provide the Legal Services.

## **Scope of Application**

### **Article (2)**

The Department shall regulate the advocacy and the legal consultancy profession in the Emirate, including free zones including Dubai International Financial Centre, by registering Advocates and Legal Consultants, and issuing Licences to Firms through which they practice the profession.

## **Provision of Legal Services**

### **Article (3)**

1. No person may undertake the profession of providing Legal Services to third parties in the Emirate unless he is registered or licensed to do so by the Department.
2. No public or private entities and individuals may deal, in relation to Legal Services, with any person who is not registered or any entity not licensed by the Department.

## **Registration and Licensing**

### **Article (4)**

Applications for registration on the roll of Advocates and the roll of Legal Consultants, and applications for licensing Firms shall be submitted in the forms designed for this purpose by the Department. Such applications shall be processed in accordance with the relevant rules, conditions and procedures in force in the Department.

## **Validity of Registration and Licences**

### **Article (5)**

The registration and Licence shall be valid for one (1) year. The registered individual and Licence holder must submit an application for renewal of registration or Licence within the last month of expiry of such registration or Licence. The registration and Licence shall be renewed in accordance with the relevant rules, conditions and procedures in force in the Department.

## **Fees**

### **Article (6)**

- a. The Department shall collect the fees stipulated in Schedule No. (1) attached to this Resolution for the registration and renewal of registration of Advocates and Legal Consultants, for issuing and renewing Licences of Firms, and for any other relevant services provided by the Department.
- b. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (a) of this Article, a UAE national Advocate or Legal Consultant who is registered for the first time with the Department shall:
  1. Pay fifty percent (50%) of the prescribed annual Advocate or Legal Consultant registration fee for a period of three (3) years starting from the date of his registration with the Department;

2. Pay fifty percent (50%) of the prescribed annual fee for licensing and renewal of a licence of a Firm per each UAE national Advocate or Legal Consultant for a period of three (3) years starting from the date of licensing the Firm if it is owned by such Advocate or Legal Consultant, or from the date of joining the Firm if the Firm is owned by a third party.

### **Displaying the Licence**

#### **Article (7)**

A Firm must display the Licence issued by the Department in a prominent place where it can be viewed by all persons dealing with the Firm.

### **Obtaining Approvals**

#### **Article (8)**

A Licence holder must observe the following:

1. obtain prior approval from the Department of any change in the legal form, name, address, management or partners of the Firm;
2. report to the Department any change in the number of Advocates or Legal Consultants working in the Firm within ten (10) business days of the change;
3. report to the Department any change in the professional status of the Advocate or Legal Consultants including interruption of practice within fifteen (15) days of the change;
4. obtain approval from the Department or report to the Department any changes or any other data or information determined by the Department.

### **Penalties**

#### **Article (9)**

- a. Without prejudice to any higher penalty stipulated by any other legislation, a person who commits any violations as specified in Schedule No. (2) attached to this Resolution, shall be subject to the relevant fine indicated opposite such violation. The fine shall be doubled in case of recurrence of the same violation within one (1) year from the date of the previous violation, but may not exceed one hundred thousand Dirhams (100,000 Dhs).

- b. In addition to the fine stipulated in this Article, the Department may take any of the following actions against the violator:
1. temporary suspension from practising the profession for a period not exceeding one (1) year;
  2. striking off from the roll; or
  3. revocation of the Licence.

### **Judicial Officers**

#### **Article (10)**

Employees of the Department named by a resolution of the Director General of the Department shall be authorised as judicial officers to prove the violations specified in Schedule No. (2) attached to this Resolution. In this capacity, they shall be authorised to issue the appropriate violation reports.

### **Grievance**

#### **Article (11)\***

Any concerned party may submit to the Director General a written grievance in respect of any decisions against him within sixty (60) days from the date of the decision. The grievance shall be heard and decided by a committee formed for this purpose by a resolution of the Director General. The decision of the said committee on the grievance shall be final.

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\* The prescribed deadline provided for in this Article for the submission of grievances in respect of any violations attributed to advocates and legal consultants under the provisions of this Resolution has been amended. The prescribed deadline for submission of a grievance has become thirty (30) days from the date of notification with the violation instead of sixty (60) days. This is in accordance Articles (11)(a) and (13) of Law No. (8) of 2018 Regulating the Grant of Law Enforcement Capacity in the Government of Dubai

Articles (11)(a) of Law No. (8) of 2018 Regulating the Grant of Law Enforcement Capacity in the Government of Dubai provides that "Any affected party may submit to the Director General a written grievance in respect of any violation attributed to him within thirty (30) days from the date of being notified of that violation"

Article (13) of the same Law provides that "Any provision in any other legislation will be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law"

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**Amicable Settlement**  
**Article (12)**

Upon the request of the violator, the Department may conclude an amicable settlement with him, subject to the following:

1. the violator submits the request for settlement within one (1) month from the date of the violation notice;
2. the violator pays at least fifty percent (50%) of the prescribed fine;
3. the violator has not committed any previous violations during the year preceding the date of the violation in respect of which settlement is requested;
4. the violator implements the terms of the amicable settlement within the time limit stipulated by the Department; and
5. any other conditions stipulated by the Department.

**Accrual of Fees and Fines**  
**Article (13)**

The fees and fines collected pursuant to this Resolution shall accrue to the public treasury of the Government.

**Issuing Implementing Bylaws**  
**Article (14)**

The Director General of the Department shall issue the by-laws and instructions necessary for the implementation of this Resolution.

**Adjustment of Status**  
**Article (15)**

All Legal Consultants working at Firms must apply for registration with the Department by the date their Firm obtains or renews its licence or within six (6) months from the date on which this Resolution comes into force, whichever comes first.

**Repeals**  
**Article (16)**

Any provision in any other resolution or instructions shall be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Resolution.

**Publication and Enforceability**  
**Article (17)**

This Resolution shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force two (2) months after the date of publication.

**Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**  
**Crown Prince of Dubai**  
**Chairman of the Executive Council**

Issued in Dubai on 26 June 2011  
Corresponding to 24 Rajab 1432 A.H.

**Schedule No. (1)**  
**Fees Prescribed for the Services Provided by the Department**

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	Description	Fee in Dirhams
<b>I. Licences Issued to Advocacy Firms and Legal Consultancy Firms</b>		
1.	Issuing or renewal of an Advocacy Firm Licence	3,000 per each Advocate or Legal Consultant employed by the Firm
2.	Issuing or renewal of a Legal Consultancy Firm Licence	3,000 per each Legal Consultant employed by the Firm
3.	Issuing or renewal of a Licence for a foreign branch office of a Legal Consultancy Firm	3,000 per each Legal Consultant employed by the Firm, provided that the total fees may not be less than 15,000 Dirhams
4.	Amendments to the particulars of the Licence of a Firm	1,000
5.	Replacement Licence or additional copy of the Licence of the Firm	100
<b>II. Registration of Advocates and Legal Consultants</b>		
1.	Registration or renewal of registration of an Advocate	2,000
2.	Registration or renewal of registration of a Legal Consultant	2,000
3.	Amendments to the particulars of registration of an Advocate or Legal Consultant	500
4.	Replacement ID Card for an Advocate or Legal Consultant	100
<b>III. Other Services:</b>		
1.	Issuing a temporary pleading permit for an advocate not registered with the Department	5,000
2.	Issuing 'To whom it may Concern' certificate	200

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**Schedule No. (2)**  
**Violations and Fines**

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	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Fine in Dirhams</b>
<b>1.</b>	Providing or offering to provide Legal Services in the Emirate without registration with the Department or a Licence issued by the Department	50,000
<b>2.</b>	Failure to renew the Licence or registration within the specified time limit without a valid reason acceptable to the Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1000 per each day of delay with a maximum aggregate of 15,000 for the first month</li> <li>- 30,000 to be imposed on the violator upon expiry of the first month. For the purposes of imposing this fine, part of a month shall be deemed as a full month.</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	Failure to obtain prior approval of the Department to any change to the legal form, name, address, management or partners of the Firm, or failure to provide the Department, within the stipulated time limit, with any data or information related to the change of number of Advocates or Legal Consultants employed by the Firm, any changes to the professional status of any Advocate or Legal Consultant, or any other information required by the Department.	10,000
<b>4.</b>	Provision of any false information or data in relation to the Licence of the Firm or registration of the Advocate or Legal Consultant	10,000
<b>5.</b>	Violation of the by-laws and instructions issued by the Department	2,000
<b>6.</b>	Failure to display the Licence in a prominent place in the Firm	5,000